

Work Group 163: Supply Chain Reporting and Invoicing

6/17/14 Meeting Notes

Industry Lead: Bob Rosser, IWCO Direct, PostCom; USPS Lead: Randy Workman, Business Mailer Support

- Because “Third Party” could be misleading the Work Group has been renamed Supply Chain Reporting and Invoicing.
- Issue Statement: The generation of a single mailing involves multiple parties across the mailing supply chain. These parties are responsible for different aspects of mail preparation that may be invoiced by a Mail Entry program (currently Full-Service, eInduction, and Seamless Acceptance). The mailing industry is interested in attributing invoice-able errors to responsible parties for investigation, resolution, and payment. This Work Group is being proposed to review the supply chain and recommend a potential approach to distributing responsibility for mail preparation errors to parties other than the eDoc submitter.
- Agenda:
 - Review feedback from last week
 - Review version 2 of the Draft Matrix of Supply Chain Reporting Issues
 - Open Discussion
 - Next Week’s Agenda
- Randy clarified who is responsible for errors exceeding thresholds on the Full-Service portion of the Mailer Scorecard in today’s environment: the eDoc submitter
- Draft Matrix v2:
 - The term “Third Party,” was changed to “Responsible Party in the Supply Chain”
 - Some changes were made to header information
 - In Column B, several items were expanded to account for more possible scenarios
 - Column added: “Suppliers contributing to eDoc preparation may not be the eDoc submitter.”
- Discussion: A suggestion was made that changes should make the data preparer, serializer, or other responsible party accountable for systemic errors currently attributed to the mail service provider (who is the eDoc submitter). Often, mail service providers have no control of the data they submit and data preparers and other parties in the supply chain have no incentive to make corrections because they are not ‘on the hook’ for invoicing.
- Discussion: Review Cast of Characters work done previously to avoid re-inventing the wheel.
- Discussion: Undocumented scenario where a mail owner mails their own volume and also gives volume with the same MID to a mail service provider
- Discussion: More responsible parties could be involved in the supply chain when monthly labelling lists become a requirement
- If anyone has new issues or suggestions for the matrix, e-mail them to Bob Rosser and/or Randy Workman.

- Next week: We will work to identify a framework for short- and long-term solution recommendations looking at a single issue example.